

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of determining whether digital content is licensed, the method comprising:

maintaining a unit of digital content at a content location on a server system, the content location having a content URL address;
maintaining licensing information at a licensing information location on [[a]] the server system,
the licensing information location having a licensing information address,
the licensing information location being separate from the content location, and
the licensing information further having information for allowing the server system to provide the unit of digital content to a client system;

using [a] the content URL address of a unit of digital content to identify the ~~location of the licensing information address, the licensing information comprising information for allowing a source to provide the unit of digital content;~~

using the licensing information address to access the licensing
information; and
examining comparing the content URL address with the licensing
information to confirm that the ~~source identified by~~ unit of digital
content associated with the content URL address ~~of the unit of~~
~~digital content~~ is licensed to ~~provide the unit of digital content~~ be
provided to the client system.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~examining~~
comparing the content URL address with the licensing information further
includes:

determining a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
comparing the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the
content URL address ~~of the unit of digital content.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein comparing the URL
pattern referenced in the licensing information with the content URL address
further includes:

confirming that the license covers the unit of digital content ~~is licensed~~ by
determining that the URL pattern referenced in the licensing
information corresponds to the content URL address ~~of the unit of~~
~~digital content.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 3, wherein the URL pattern ~~referenced in the licensing information~~ corresponds to the content URL address ~~of the content~~ when the URL pattern matches the content URL address ~~of the unit of digital content~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:
responding to ~~[[a]] the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information that~~
corresponds to the content URL address ~~of the unit of digital content~~ by
directing ~~[[a]] the~~ client system to ~~process and~~ render the unit of digital
content.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein using the content
URL address ~~of the unit of digital content~~ to identify the ~~location of the~~ licensing
information address further includes:

determining at least one potential location for the licensing information on
the server system based on ~~[[the]]~~ a prefix of the content URL
address ~~of the unit of digital content~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein the at least one
potential location is determined through a ~~root~~ directory system on the server ~~or~~
~~through a subdirectory on the server where the content resides~~ system, the
directory system having a root directory and at least one subdirectory.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, further comprising:
searching through the root directory for the licensing information.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 7, ~~wherein,~~ further comprising:

~~when licensing information is not found through the root directory,~~

searching for the licensing information through the at least one

subdirectory where the content resides on the server ~~[[; and]]~~

system when:

the licensing information is not found through the root

directory, or

~~[[when]]~~ the licensing information found through the root

directory does not correspond to the unit of digital

content, ~~searching for the licensing information~~

~~through the subdirectory where the unit of digital~~

~~content resides on the server.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1,

wherein the end-user is a user of the client system;

wherein the client system is the content provider for the end-user; and

wherein~~[[,]]~~ identifying the ~~location of~~ licensing information address is in response

to a request, by ~~[[a]]~~ the client system, to download the unit of digital

content from the server system to provide to the end-user.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, further comprising:

responding to the request by:

delivering the unit of digital content to the client system~~[[;]],~~

confirming that a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information

corresponds to the content URL address ~~of the unit of digital~~

~~content~~; and

in response to confirming that the URL pattern corresponds to the content URL

address, ~~of the unit of digital content, processing and~~ rendering the unit of

digital content on the client system.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the licensing information includes a licensing key.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein the license key is an encrypted text file.

14. (Currently Amended) The method Claim 12, wherein the license key comprises a first license key, and further comprising:

overriding any other license key on the server system when the license

key is located through a root directory of the content URL address

~~of the unit of digital content.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~examining~~
comparing the content URL address with the licensing information further
includes:

determining whether the licensing information has been altered.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the licensing
information further includes information pertaining to restrictions on ~~processing~~
rendering of the unit of digital content.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the licensing
information further includes information about a feature of the unit of digital
content that is enabled or disabled.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein the URL pattern
referenced in the licensing information indicates one or more content URL
addresses ~~of licensed unit of digital content~~.

19. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied
computer-readable medium comprising:

~~computer-executable~~ instructions, which when executed by a processor in
a computer system, cause the processor to respond to a request to
download ~~licensed~~ a unit of digital content at a content location on a

server system, the content location having a content URL address,

by:

maintaining licensing information at a licensing information

location on the server system,

the licensing information location having a

licensing information address,

the licensing information location being

separate from the content location, and

the licensing information further having

information for allowing the server

system to provide the unit of digital

content to a client system;

using [a] the content URL address ~~of a unit of digital content~~

~~to identify the location of the licensing information~~

~~address, the licensing information comprising~~

~~information for allowing a source to provide the unit of~~

~~digital content;~~

using the licensing information address to access the

licensing information; and

~~processing~~ comparing the content URL address with the

~~licensing information to confirm that the source-~~

~~identified by~~ unit of digital content associated with the

content URL address ~~of the unit of digital content is~~

licensed to ~~provide the unit of digital content~~ be
provided to the client system.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied
computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the instructions for ~~processing~~
~~the licensing~~ comparing the content URL address with the licensing information
further include[[s]] instructions to:

determine a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
compare the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the
content URL address of the unit of digital content.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied
computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the instructions to compare the
URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the content URL address
further include:

instructions to confirm that the license covers the unit of digital content ~~is~~
~~licensed~~ by determining that the URL pattern referenced in the
licensing information corresponds to the content URL address of
~~the unit of digital content.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied
computer-readable medium of Claim 21, wherein the URL pattern ~~referenced in~~
~~the licensing information~~ corresponds to the content URL address of the content

when the URL pattern matches the content URL address of the unit of digital content.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 21, further comprising:

responding to a URL pattern ~~referenced in the licensing information~~ that corresponds to the content URL address of the unit of digital content by ~~causing a~~ directing the client system to ~~process~~ render the unit of digital content.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the instructions for using the content URL address of the unit of digital content to identify the location of the licensing information address further include:

instructions that determine at least one potential location for the licensing information on the server system based on ~~[[the]]~~ a prefix of the content URL address of the unit of digital content.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the at least one potential location is determined for the licensing information ~~is located~~ through a ~~[[root]]~~ directory system on the server system, the directory system having a root

directory and at least one subdirectory ~~or through a subdirectory on the server~~
where the unit of digital content resides.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied
computer-readable medium of Claim 25, further comprising:

instructions for searching through the root directory for the licensing
information.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied
computer-readable medium of Claim 25, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:

~~when the licensing information is not found through the root directory,~~
searching for the licensing information through the at least one
subdirectory where the unit of digital content resides on the server
~~for the licensing information, and~~ system when:

the licensing information is not found through the root
directory, or

the licensing information found through the root directory
does not correspond to the unit of digital content,
~~searching through the subdirectory where the unit of~~
~~digital content resides on the server for the licensing~~
information.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19,

wherein the end-user is a user of the client system;

wherein the client system is the content provider for the end-user;

wherein[[,]] identifying the ~~location of~~ licensing information address is in response to a request, by [[a]] the client system, to download the unit of digital content from the server system to provide to the end-user.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 28, further comprising:

instructions for responding to the request by:

delivering the unit of digital content to the client[[:]]₁

confirming that a URL pattern referenced in the licensing

information corresponds to the content URL address of the ~~unit of digital content~~; and

~~responding in response~~ to confirming that the URL pattern corresponds to the content URL address₁ ~~of the unit of digital content by causing the client to process~~ rendering the unit of digital content on the client system.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the licensing information further includes a license key.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 30 ~~wherein responding to the request~~ further includes:

overriding any other license key on the server system when the license key is located through a root directory of the content URL address ~~of the unit of digital content~~.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the instructions for processing the licensing information further include:

instructions that determine whether there are any restrictions on ~~processing~~ rendering of the unit of digital content.

33. (Currently Amended) A software system to ~~access-licensed~~ determine whether a unit of digital content is licensed comprising:

a communications handler responsive to a request to download a ~~licensed~~ unit of digital content at a content location on a server system, the content location having a content URL address ~~from a server computer system~~; and

a licensing manager, in communication with the communications handler,

~~which~~ the licensing manager being configured to:

maintain licensing information at a licensing information

location on the server system, the licensing

information location having a licensing information

address, the licensing information location being

separate from the content location, and the licensing

information further having information for allowing the

server system to provide the unit of digital content to a

client system;

~~use[[s]] a content URL address of the unit of digital content on the~~

~~server to identify the location of licensing information~~

~~address from the server, the licensing information~~

~~comprising information for allowing a source server system~~

~~to provide the unit of digital content,~~

use the licensing information address to access the licensing

information; and

~~the licensing manager examining compare the content URL~~

~~address with the licensing information to confirm that the~~

~~source identified by unit of digital content associated with the~~

~~content URL address of the unit of digital content is licensed~~

~~to provide the unit of digital content be provided to the client~~

~~system.~~

34. (Previously Presented) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the communications handler or the licensing manager is associated with a runtime environment executing on a client system.

35. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein a client system initiates the request to download the unit of digital content from the server system.

36. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager ~~examines~~ is configured to compare the content URL address with the licensing information to confirm that the unit of digital content is licensed by:

determining a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
comparing the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the
content URL address of the unit of digital content.

37. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 36, wherein the comparing further includes:

confirming, by the licensing manager, that the license covers the content
~~is licensed~~ when the URL pattern referenced in the licensing
information corresponds to the content URL address of the unit of
~~digital content~~.

38. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 37, wherein the licensing manager is configured to respond[[s]] to a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information, which corresponds to the content URL address ~~of the unit of digital content~~, by directing [[a]] the client system to ~~process~~ render the unit of digital content.

39. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager is configured to obtain[[s]] the licensing information by determining at least one potential location for the licensing information on the server system, the at least one potential location being based on [[the]] a prefix of the content URL address ~~of the unit of digital content~~.

40. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 39, wherein the licensing manager is configured to determine the at least one potential location [[is]] through a [[root]] directory system on the server ~~or a subdirectory on the server which is the same directory where the unit of digital content is stored~~ system, the directory system having a root directory and at least one subdirectory.

41. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 40, wherein the licensing manager further includes:

a search routine to search through the root directory for the licensing information.

42. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim [[41]] 40, wherein, when the licensing manager determines that licensing information is not found through the root directory, the search routine is further configured directed to search for the licensing information through the at least one subdirectory which is the same directory where the unit of digital content is stored; and resides on the server system when:

the licensing manager determines that licensing information is not found through the root directory, or

~~when the licensing information found through the root directory does not correspond to the unit of digital content, the search routine is directed to search the subdirectory, which is the same directory where the unit of digital content is stored.~~

43. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager further includes:

logic for forgoing processing of any other licensing information on the server system when the licensing information is located through a ~~root~~ the directory system, using a prefix of the content URL address of the ~~unit of digital content~~.

44. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager ~~examining the licensing information is~~ further includes ~~determining~~ configured to determine from the licensing information whether there are any restrictions on ~~processing~~ rendering of the unit of digital content.

45. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~accessing licensed~~ determining whether a unit of digital content is licensed, comprising:

means for maintaining a unit of digital content at a content location on a server system, the content location having a content URL address;

means for maintaining licensing information at a licensing information location on the server system,

the licensing information location having a licensing information address,

the licensing information location being separate from the content location, and

the licensing information further having information for allowing the server system to provide the unit of digital content to a client system;

means for using a content URL address of the unit of digital content on a server system to locate identify the licensing information address,
~~the licensing information comprising information for allowing a source~~ server system to provide the unit of digital content;

means for using the licensing information address to access the licensing
information; and

means for ~~examining~~ comparing the content URL address with the
licensing information to confirm that the ~~source identified by~~ unit of
digital content associated with the content URL address ~~of the unit~~
~~of digital content~~ is licensed to ~~provide the unit of digital content~~ be
provided to the client system.